

REMARKS

This Amendment is being filed in response to the Office Action mailed October 29, 2008, which has been reviewed and carefully considered. Reconsideration and allowance of the present application in view of the amendments made above and the remarks to follow are respectfully requested.

Claims 1-5, 7-8, 10 and 12-13 remain in this application, where claims 1, 10 and 13 are independent.

In the Office Action, claims 1-5, 7-8, 10 and 12 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as allegedly anticipated by EP 1062914 (Lazarev). Further, claim 13 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as allegedly unpatentable over Lazarev in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,459,755 (Li). It is respectfully submitted that claims 1-5, 7-8, 10 and 12-13 are patentable over Lazarev and Li for at least the following reasons.

Lazarev is directed to a computerized tomography based on the object imaging with small angle scattered radiation. As shown in FIG 5 and recited in paragraph [0035] of Lazarev, a primary radiation beam 8 that passes through the investigated object 4

impinges on detectors 9 of a spatial filter 5. The spatial filter 5 is located between the investigated object 4 and a spatially-sensitive detector 3 that receives scattered radiation 7 scattered from the investigated object 4. That is, the spatial filter 5 and the spatially-sensitive detector 3 are two different elements and are not part of a single array.

In stark contrast, the present invention as recited in independent claim 1, and similarly recited in independent claims 10 and 13, amongst other patentable elements recites that (illustrative emphasis provided):

shaped radiation beam; wherein the radiation detector array is asymmetrically arranged with respect to the fan-shaped radiation beam; wherein a first part of the radiation detector array is used for a cone beam data acquisition and a second part of the radiation detector array is used for scatter radiation measurements; ...

wherein the radiation detector array includes a plurality of detector lines each with a plurality of detector elements arranged in a line; ...

wherein a primary radiation attenuated by the object of interest impinges on a first line of the plurality of detector lines; ...

wherein the first line is the last line of the radiation detector array in the direction along which the object of interest is displaced with respect to the radiation detector array.

Having a single detector array with detector lines for detecting both primary radiation attenuated by the object of interest and scatter radiation measurements, where the first line is the last line of the radiation detector array in the direction along which the object of interest is displaced with respect to the radiation detector array, is nowhere disclosed or suggested in Lazarev. At best, Lazarev discloses two separate detector arrays, namely, the spatial filter 5 and the spatially-sensitive detector 3.

Even, assuming arguendo, the spatial filter 5 and the spatially-sensitive detector 3 shown in FIG 5 of Lazarev are a single detector array, it not clear whether the primary radiation beam 8 that passes through the investigated object 4 impinges the first or last detector 9 of the spatial filter 5. There is simply no disclosure or suggestion in Lazarev that the primary radiation attenuated by the object of interest impinges on a first line of the detector array, where the first line is the last line of the radiation detector array in the direction along which the object of interest is displaced with respect to the radiation detector array, as recited in independent claim 1, and similarly recited in

independent claims 10 and 13. This provides substantial benefits, such as increasing the scatter angle range for detecting scatter radiation by the very same detector.

The recitation in independent claims 1, 10 and 13, of a single array for detecting both primary radiation attenuated by the object of interest and scatter radiation measurements, where the primary radiation impinges on a first line which is the last line of the radiation detector array in the direction along which the object of interest is displaced with respect to the radiation detector array is nowhere disclosed or suggested in Lazarev. Li is cited to allegedly show other features and does not remedy the deficiencies in Lazarev.

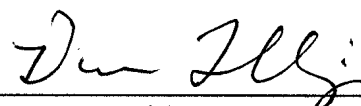
Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that independent claims 1, 10 and 13 should be allowable, and allowance thereof is respectfully requested. In addition, it is respectfully submitted that claims 2-5, 7-8 and 12 should also be allowed at least based on their dependence from amended independent claims 1 and 10.

In addition, Applicants deny any statement, position or averment of the Examiner that is not specifically addressed by the foregoing argument and response. Any rejections and/or points of

argument not addressed would appear to be moot in view of the presented remarks. However, the Applicants reserve the right to submit further arguments in support of the above stated position, should that become necessary. No arguments are waived and none of the Examiner's statements are conceded.

In view of the above, it is respectfully submitted that the present application is in condition for allowance, and a Notice of Allowance is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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